



# Western Birding Symposium

**Brigham City, Utah  
Box Elder County**



**Fall Conference**

**August 17-19, 2006**

**With a pre-symposium trip to the  
Uinta Mountains on August 16!**

**Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge  
Brigham City, Utah**

## Welcome!

Brigham City welcomes you to the first Western Birding Symposium, being held in conjunction with the Utah Ornithological Society's Fall Conference. We're very excited to have Pete Dunne joining us for this event!

Shorebird migration in northern Utah will be in full swing, and there's nowhere better to learn and practice your I.D. skills than habitats around the Great Salt Lake. Morning field trips will take you to some of northern Utah's most scenic and unique birding spots – at all elevations. Afternoon presentations will be held at the new James V. Hansen Wildlife Education Center located at the world-renowned Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. Learn all about Utah birds and birding from some of the State's most experienced birders and researchers.

Join Westwings Birding Tours owner, Mark Stackhouse, for a pre-symposium field trip into Utah's picturesque Uinta Mountains.

This booklet will provide you with a schedule of the weekend's events, and a registration form. You may also register for the Symposium on-line at: <http://brighamcity.utah.gov>.

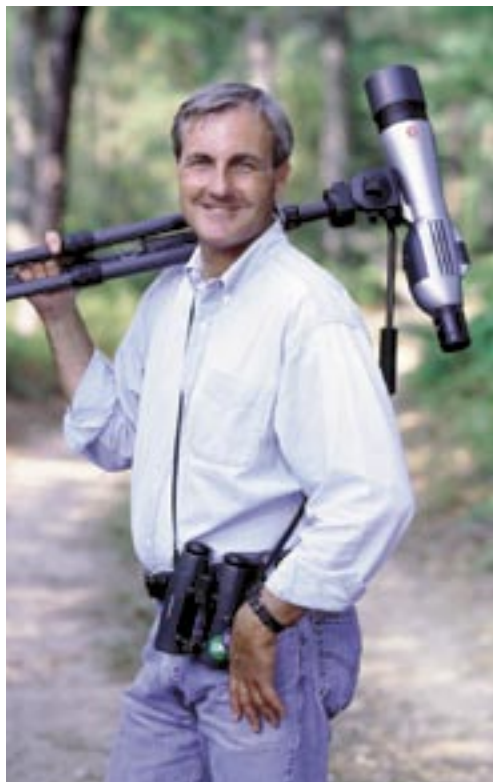
We're looking forward to seeing you in Brigham City in August!

The Planning Committee:

<b>Brigham City</b>	<b>Box Elder County</b>
<b>Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge</b>	<b>Friends of the Bear River Refuge</b>
<b>Utah Ornithological Society</b>	<b>Utah Division of Wildlife Resources</b>
<b>Utah State University</b>	<b>Bridgerland Audubon Society</b>
<b>Wasatch Audubon Society</b>	<b>Nikon Sport Optics</b>
<b>Brigham Area Chamber of Commerce</b>	<b>Westwings, Inc.</b>
<b>Bear River Valley Chamber of Commerce</b>	

### Activities for Non-birding Spouses & Children

On both Friday and Saturday afternoons, Bear River Refuge will host a variety of activities for you, including bird related stories, films, crafts, and wetland exploration. In addition, the city will offer passes for the pool, and assorted other goodies. Pick up information at the symposium registration desk.



## Pete Dunne

is the author of seven books, including *Hawks in Flight*, *The Wind Masters*, *The Feather Quest*, and *Tales of a Low-Rent Birder*. His most recently completed books are *Pete Dunne on Bird Watching*, and *Pete Dunne's Essential Field Guide Companion*.

Pete is vice president of the New Jersey Audubon Society and director of its Cape May Bird Observatory. He has written columns and articles for virtually every birding magazine as well as the New York Times. The Wall Street Journal described him, in a personality profile, as “the bard of birding.”

### **Thursday, August 17**

**The Art of Pishing** – Why drive and walk in search of birds when you can get them to come to you? Pete Dunne, author of the newly released *The Art of Pishing* will show you how to wheeze, shush, stutter and whistle your way to inner peace, spiritual enlightenment, and a few good birds. Wear clothing you don't mind getting wet. Those easily embarrassed need not attend.

### **Friday, August 18**

**Twenty Things that Changed Birding** – Birding, that quaint, closet avocation once enjoyed by wispy haired academic types, the stereotypic little-ol'-lady-in-tennis-sneakers has morphed into the second largest and fastest-growing outdoor activity. But why? How? What are the catalytic social changes, political decisions, products, ideas, publications, and people that shifted the avocational axis of birding? Pete Dunne peered deep into the suds lying atop a cold mug and has come up with twenty answers. Some will make you nod. Some will make you pause. All will help you better understand the hobby that serves as your addiction.

# Field Trips

About our field trips...

All field trips will leave from, and return to, the Wildlife Education Center parking lot at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, 2155 West Forest Street (exit #363 off of I-15), Brigham City. The Center is one block west of the Interstate on Forest Street. Plan to arrive at least 15 minutes early. All field trips will include some walking, but at an easy to moderate pace. You should bring along plenty of water and snacks. Sunscreen, a hat, and insect repellent are recommended. For high elevation trips, wear clothing you can layer, as temperatures can be cool in the mornings. Sturdy footwear is a must.

Field trips to the Uinta Mountains and Logan Canyon/Tony Grove will include some walking at elevations between 8,000 and 12,000 feet above sea level. People who have come from low elevations may experience symptoms of "altitude sickness." Although the symptoms can vary considerably in both nature and intensity, most people won't suffer any ill effects at these altitudes. Everyone will experience shortness of breath and will tire more easily, with even light to moderate exertion, such as walking uphill. Some people may experience varying degrees of dizziness, light-headedness, headaches, nausea, fatigue and/or general malaise. You can minimize the severity and chance of these symptoms by getting plenty of sleep, drinking plenty of fluids, avoiding alcohol, and avoiding over-exertion during your days in the mountains.

## Uinta Mountain Treasures

Pre-symposium Field Trip – Wednesday, August 16

5:30am – 4:00pm

Cost: \$35.00 (lunch provided)

Join Westwings Birding Tours owner, Mark Stackhouse, for an exciting birding adventure into Utah's spectacular Uinta Mountains. Birding at higher elevations opens the door to a whole new world of western specialties! Amid a stunning landscape of rugged peaks, montane forests and crystalline lakes, you'll look for Northern Goshawk, Williamson's and Red-naped Sapsuckers, American Three-toed Woodpecker, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western Wood-Pewee, Hammond's, Dusky and Cordilleran Flycatchers, Plumbeous Vireo, Gray, Steller's and Western Scrub Jays, American Dipper, Mountain Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, Orange-crowned, MacGillivray's and Wilson's Warblers, Western Tanager, Black Rosy-Finch, Pine Grosbeak and Cassin's Finch. A large touring bus will be used for this trip.

## Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge

Thursday August 17 & Saturday, August 19

5:30am – 12:00pm

Cost: \$15.00

The Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge is without a doubt one of northern Utah's premier birding hotspots! In mid-August, birders will find phenomenal (Cont'd pg 5)

# Western Birding Symposium

## Birds to Look For

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Cinnamon Teal	Calliope Hummingbird	
Chukar	Broad-tailed Hummingbird	Juniper Titmouse
Gray Partridge	Rufous Hummingbird	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Ruffed Grouse	Lewis's Woodpecker	Brown Creeper
Blue Grouse	Williamson's Sapsucker	Rock Wren
Sharp-tailed Grouse	Red-naped Sapsucker	Canyon Wren
Western Grebe	American Three-toed	American Dipper
Clark's Grebe	Woodpecker	Golden-crowned Kinglet
Swainson's Hawk	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Ferruginous Hawk	Western Wood-Pewee	Mountain Bluebird
Golden Eagle	Willow Flycatcher	Townsend's Solitaire
Peregrine Falcon	Hammond's Flycatcher	Hermit Thrush
Prairie Falcon	Gray Flycatcher	Sage Thrasher
Snowy Plover	Dusky Flycatcher	Orange-crowned Warbler
Black-necked Stilt	Ash-throated Flycatcher	Yellow Warbler
American Avocet	Cordilleran Flycatcher	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Long-billed Curlew	Western Kingbird	MacGillivray's Warbler
Marbled Godwit	Eastern Kingbird	Western Tanager
Western Sandpiper	Loggerhead Shrike	Green-tailed Towhee
Least Sandpiper	Plumbeous Vireo	Spotted Towhee
Baird's Sandpiper	Warbling Vireo	Chipping Sparrow
Long-billed Dowitcher	Gray Jay	Brewer's Sparrow
Wilson's Phalarope	Steller's Jay	Fox Sparrow
California Gull	Western Scrub Jay	Lazuli Bunting
Burrowing Owl	Pinion Jay	Bullock's Oriole
Short-eared Owl	Clark's Nutcracker	Black Rosy-Finch
White-throated Swift	Violet-green Swallow	Pine Grosbeak
Black-chinned Hummingbird	Mountain Chickadee	Cassin's Finch

# Weekend Agenda – Quick Guide

**Note:** The James V. Hansen Wildlife Education Center at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge will serve as Symposium Headquarters. Field trips will leave from the main parking lot. Speakers and presentations will be held in the auditorium or classrooms.

**Exception:** The Friday evening banquet with Pete Dunne will be held at the Brigham City Community Center, located at the corner of Forest Street and 300 West.

## **Wednesday, August 16**

5:30am – 4:00pm Pre-symposium field trip to the Uinta Mountains with Mark Stackhouse

## **Thursday, August 17**

5:30am – 12:00pm Field Trip to Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge  
12:00pm – 5:30pm Symposium Registration – Information Desk -  
Birding on your Own  
5:30pm – 6:30pm Social with hors d'oeuvres and beverages –  
Classrooms A & B  
6:30pm – 7:30pm Pete Dunne, “The Art of Pishing” – Auditorium

## **Friday, August 18**

5:30am – 12:00pm Field Trips to Logan Canyon, Salt Creek &  
Antelope Island  
1:00pm – 4:00pm Activities for non-birding spouses and children  
1:00pm – 4:30pm Speakers and Presentations – Auditorium and  
Classrooms  
6:00pm – 7:00pm Dutch Oven Dinner/Banquet at the Brigham City  
Community Center  
7:00pm – 8:00pm Pete Dunne, “Twenty Things That Changed  
Birding”, following the banquet.

## **Saturday, August 19**

5:30am – 12:00pm Field Trips to Bear River, Antelope Island,  
Logan Canyon  
1:00pm – 4:00pm Activities for non-birding spouses and children  
1:00pm – 4:00pm Speakers and Presentations – Auditorium/  
Classrooms  
4:00pm – 4:30pm Utah Ornithological Society Annual Meeting

End of the Symposium – **Thank You For Attending!**

# Western Birding Symposium

## Registration Form

Names \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Event	Cost / Person	# People	Total Price
General Registration-per person (includes afternoon presentations and break snacks)	15.00		
Wednesday Pre-symposium Field Trip to the Uinta Mountains with box lunch	35.00		
Thursday Morning Field Trip - Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge	15.00		
Thursday Evening Social with Pete Dunne	N/C		
Friday Morning Field Trip-Salt Creek/ Promontory/Golden Spike	20.00		
Friday Morning Field Trip-Logan Canyon/Tony Grove by car caravan	5.00		
Friday Morning Field Trip-Willard Bay/Antelope Island State Parks	20.00		
Friday Evening Dutch Oven Banquet with Pete Dunne	20.00		
Saturday Morning Field Trip - Logan Canyon/Tony Grove by car caravan	5.00		
Saturday Morning Field Trip - Willard Bay/Antelope Island State Parks	20.00		
Saturday Morning Field Trip - Bear River Refuge Shorebird ID Workshop	15.00		
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>			

Make Checks to: Friends of the Bear River Refuge.  
 Mail to: Friends of the Bear River Refuge.  
 2155 West Forest Street, Brigham City, UT 84302  
 Or register on-line using PayPal at: <http://brighamcity.utah.gov>





(From pg 4) numbers of shorebirds, stopping to refuel before continuing their southward migration. Species such as American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt and White-faced Ibis breed in large numbers on the refuge, adding to the variety and numbers of species you will see. You'll look for Western and Clark's Grebes, Great, Snowy and Cattle Egrets, Snowy and Semipalmated Plovers, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary Sandpiper, Long-billed Curlew, Marbled Godwit, Western, Least and Baird's Sandpipers, Long-billed Dowitcher, Wilson's Snipe, Wilson's Phalarope, Forster's and Caspian Terns. A large touring bus will be used for these trips. **Note:** The Saturday trip will be a Shorebird I.D. trip, including a 30-minute classroom session at the education center, followed by the bus trip.

### **Salt Creek Waterfowl Management Area – Promontory - Golden Spike National Historic Site**

Friday, August 18

5:30am – 12:00pm

Cost: \$20.00

The Salt Creek WMA is home to much more than waterfowl. Managers have enhanced the site with nesting structures for burrowing owls! Learn more about this interesting program from the Salt Creek biologist. Other birds we'll look for include Cinnamon Teal, Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, Ruddy Duck, Swainson's Hawk, Peregrine and Prairie Falcons, Short-eared Owl, Sage Thrasher and Brewer's Sparrow. We'll also visit the Golden Spike National Historic Site, to give the trip a little historic and cultural flavor. A large touring bus will be used for these trips.

### **Antelope Island and Willard Bay State Parks**

Friday, August 18 & Saturday, August 19

5:30am – 12:00pm

Cost: \$20.00

Willard Bay State Park often collects some interesting migrants, and will be our first stop. There is good shore-birding along the causeway to Antelope Island State Park, and Garr Ranch often hosts migrant songbirds as well. We'll make a stop at the Visitor Center. Birds we'll look for include waterfowl, shorebirds, Chukar, Eared Grebe, Osprey, Burrowing Owl, Rock Wren, Sage Thrasher, Great-tailed Grackle, Black-headed Grosbeak and Bullock's Oriole. A large touring bus will be used for these trips.

### **Logan Canyon/Tony Grove**

Friday, August 18 & Saturday, August 19.

5:30am – 12:00pm

Cost: \$5.00 (by car caravan)

Birding at higher elevations will provide opportunities for a different variety of birds. Some species we'll look for include: Ruffed and Blue Grouse, White-throated Swift, Black-chinned, Calliope, Broad-tailed and Rufous Hummingbirds, American Three-toed Woodpecker, Steller's Jay, Clark's Nutcracker, Violet-green Swallow, Mountain Bluebird, MacGillivray's Warbler, Green-tailed and Spotted Towhees, Fox Sparrow and Pine Grosbeak. This will be a car caravan trip. A \$3.00 per vehicle parking fee is required at Tony Grove.

# Speakers and Presentations

## Friday, August 18 – Beginning at 1:00 p.m.

**“Utah Geology and Unique Bird Life,”** by Don Paul

What makes Utah unique in the bird world? The Great Salt Lake and environs are a national treasure – for birds and humans...learn why!

**“Nesting Success of Coexisting Shorebirds at Great Salt Lake, Utah,”** by John Cavitt.

The Great Salt Lake is one of North America's most important inland shorebird sites. At least 22 species of shorebirds utilize the lake during migration, and eight species nest in habitats associated with the lake.

**“Bear River Shorebird Abundance and Phenology,”** by Bridget Olson.

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge is a world-renowned shorebird and waterbird refuge. Learn what species use the refuge, and what time of year is best to visit.

**“Owls in the West - With Emphasis on Utah,”** by Merrill Webb.

Utah has an amazing variety of owls – learn more about what species make their home here – and in the West.

**“Birds of Southern Utah,”** by Josh Kreitzer.

Southern Utah habitats are quite different from those in the north, providing habitat for a very different variety of birds.

**“Field Sketching Birds for Documentation,”** by Dave Prevedel.

Not everyone has access to a digital camera to document rare birds in the field. Dave will give you some tips on what to look for and what to include in your field sketches.

## Saturday, August 19 – Beginning at 1:00 p.m.

**“Hope is the Thing With Feathers: A Personal Chronicle of Vanished Birds,”** by Christopher Cokinos.

With ten years of detective work, Chris uncovered the strange stories and glorious quests of those who stalked vanishing birds as well as those who fought to save them. Book signing during the break.

**“Willow Flycatchers - Behavioral Differences in Core Habitat Areas,”** by Amanda Bakian.

Understanding home range selection and use is essential for proper management and conservation. Male and female Willow Flycatchers exhibit behavioral differences within habitats.

**“The Birds of San Juan County: What We Know and What We Don't,”**

by Lu Giddings. Learn about bird life found in this diverse Utah County. No one knows the story better than Lu.

**“Funding Wildlife in the New Millennium,”** by Bill Fenimore

Changing demographics in Utah today create funding challenges for the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. Do “Wildlife Watchers” need to be licensed?

### **Panel Discussion:**

**“How Can We Better Fund Nongame Wildlife Programs in Utah?”** Do birders pay their way?



**Utah Ornithological Society General Membership Meeting**

## **Lodging**

### **Crystal Inn**

480 Westland Drive  
Brigham City UT 84302  
435-723-0440

[www.crystalinns.com](http://www.crystalinns.com)

Every room includes free continental breakfast, microwave, and refrigerator. Indoor pool, hot tub, exercise room, and local phone calls are free.

### **Howard Johnson Inn**

1167 South Main Street  
Brigham City UT 84302  
435-723-8511

In room coffee, complimentary USA Today, home off rooms available, 25" remote control television with HBO and cable.

### **Bushnell Motel**

115 East 700 South  
Brigham City UT 84302  
435-723-8575

<http://www.favorites.com/~hemmert/main.html>

Located in a quiet, residential area, off Main Street. Kitchenettes available and pets are welcome.

### **Galaxie Motel**

740 South Main Street  
Brigham City UT 84302  
435-723-3439

Full serve motel with discount rates, RV parking

### **Sherwood Hills Hotel, Resort & Conference Center**

7877 S Hwy 89-91  
Wellsville, UT 84339  
1-800-532-5066  
[www.sherwoodhills.com](http://www.sherwoodhills.com)

Resort and spa nestled up against the Wellsville mountains, just 15 minutes from Brigham City. Birding trails onsite.

## **Camping**

### **Willard Bay State Park**

900 West 650 North  
Willard UT 84340  
435-734-9494

Reservoir based campground, beach and boating facility. Full hookups available.

### **KOA Kampground**

1040 West 3600 South  
Brigham City UT 84302  
435-723-5503  
<http://www.koakampgrounds.com/where/ut/44103/>

RV and Tent site available, as well as Kamp Kabins. Hayrides, ice cream socials and barbeques available. Pool and lots of shade.

### **Golden Spike RV Park**

905 West 1075 South  
Brigham City UT 84302  
435-723-8858

Full hookups, pull throughs, RV parts, supplies, trailer supplies.

## **Friends of the Bear River Refuge**

2155 West Forest Street

Brigham City, UT 84302

[www.fobr.org](http://www.fobr.org)

**PRSRT**  
US Postage

**PAID**

Bear River City, UT

Permit #2

